



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo

#12-2539

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee Feldman, City Manager

DATE: November 20, 2012

TITLE: South Side School Update

The following is the latest update on the South Side School project.

The first bid package is complete out for bid. This includes the outlying buildings that are independent of the primary South Side School structure. These include:

- Picnic pavilion
- Restroom building
- Playground shade structures
- Pedestrian walkways and
- Landscaping and irrigation
- Exterior site lighting
- Sidewalk replacement along Andrews Avenue from SW 7th Street to SW 9th Street.

The sidewalk expansion along Andrews Avenue has been added to the bid as a bid alternate through addendum. Including it as an alternate will provide specific costs associated with the sidewalk improvements. This work has been added and was not budgeted. Additional funding may be necessary to award this work.

Bid documents were advertised on October 3.

- A pre-bid meeting was conducted at the site on October 16. Sealed bids are due on November 28 with tentative City Commission award on January 8. The estimate for this work is \$360,000. The estimate of the additional work for sidewalk improvements is an additional \$125,000. The bid date has been pushed back due to issuance of addenda and Thanksgiving.
- Mediation was conducted between the City and West Construction on October 17. A closed door meeting is scheduled at the December 4 Commission meeting to review the results of that mediation.

- The City has continued to have dialogue with Nova Southeastern University regarding the operation of the main facility once it is opened. On November 12, Nova responded to the City's letter of October 3. A copy of this letter is attached. It is evident from the response that additional decisions have to be made for Nova to partner with the City. The impact is that design will be radically different if Nova is on board. This will require additional design time and additional costs.
- Design is ongoing on the main building completion. However design is currently not based on Nova occupancy and operation. Staff will need direction on how to proceed. The design has not been modified to accommodate the programming needs of the City if Nova is not the operator. And if Nova does operate the facility, they will require additional square footage, modifications to the electrical, plumbing, ventilation and fire protection systems. The school occupancy has different requirements than park occupancy under the Florida Building Code. Design should be finalized prior to bidding and the uncertainty of the status is hindering this effort.
- Depending on final Nova requirements, the additional costs could be up to \$1.3 million and additional time could be at least 6-8 months. If Nova is not a partner, the project will still be delayed 2-3 months to allow for design changes to fit Parks and Recreation programming.
- Staff is continuing to work with the Building Department to maintain active permits for the project. They will have to be separated between two new contractors.

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